

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to an image processing apparatus and method for controlling output of a specific image, and a storage medium.

5           For example, image data which is open to the public on the Internet may be printed out without permission by an ill-disposed person, even if it has a copyright.

10           In this invention, when information indicating the presence of a copyright is stored in extended property information of image data, which complies with a hierarchical data format that hierarchically stores image data of a plurality of resolution, original image data, i.e., the image data of interest is controlled  
15           not to be output at a high resolution, thereby preventing original image data from being printed out without permission of the copyright holder.